

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4507

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: CSCE-BELGIAN PAPER ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

REF: A) STATE 184993; B) USNATO 4285; C) STATE 26154

SUMMARY: INITIAL POLADS DISCUSSION SEPTEMBER 25 OF BELGIAN PAPER ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY (TEXT REF B) REVEALED ANTICIPATED DIVISION OF OPINION, WITH MOST DELEGATIONS REACTING FAVORABLY WHILE U.S. AND FRANCE RESTATED THEIR KNOWN OPPOSITION TO ASPECTS OF PAPER. U.S. REP DREW FULLY ON REF A SUPPLEMENTED BY REF C. WITH REGARD TO TACTICS IN GENEVA, BELGIAN REP INDICATED THAT PAPER INCORPORATING MOST POINTS IN ORIGINAL DRAFT WOULD BE TABLED THIS WEEK IN SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY AND ASKED THAT ALLIES WHO DO NOT ACCEPT PAPER REFRAIN FROM STATING OPPOSITION AT OUTSET. END SUMMARY.

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1. U.S. REP OPENED DISCUSSION BY DRAWING FULLY ON REF A AND RESTATING BASIC U.S. POSITION ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY IN CSCE CONTEXT PER REF C. NETHERLANDS REP NOTED THE HAGUE'S GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF BELGIAN PAPER WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF

TACTICS IN PARA 6(B). WHILE THE HAGUE DOES NOT RULE OUT RELATIVELY PASSIVE ALLIED APPROACH ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY BEYOND CBM'S AS PROPOSED BY BELGIANS, NETHERLANDS REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO DID NOT WISH TO EXCLUDE POSSIBLE INITIATIVE IN THIS AREA SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES SO INDICATE. TURKISH REP SUGGESTED THAT TACTICAL QUESTIONS COULD BEST BE LEFT TO GENEVA DELEGATIONS. HE SAID THAT ANKARA AGREED WITH BELGIAN PAPER IN GENERAL BUT SUGGESTED THAT POINTS (A) AND (B) IN PARA 8 COULD PERHAPS BE COMBINED WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON REQUIREMENT TO AVOID ANY STEP DETRIMENTAL TO THE SECURITY OF ANY EUROPEAN STATE, I.E. THE FLANKS.

2. FRG REP TERMED BELGIAN PAPER "INTERESTING CONTRIBUTION" AND SAID THAT BONN AGREED WITH BELGIAN VIEW THAT MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN EUROPE WAS IMPORTANT SUBJECT WHICH SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT CSCE. GERMANS ALSO AGREE WITH BELGIAN EMPHASIS ON INCLUSION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN CBM'S AND SHARE BELGIAN OPPOSITION TO CREATING SPECIAL ZONE IN EUROPE. ON LATTER POINT, FRG REP SUGGESTED THAT PROBLEM OF SPECIAL ZONE MIGHT NOT ARISE AT CSCE SINCE MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY IN CSCE WERE AIMED AT CREATING "GREATER MILITARY TRANSPARANCY AND CONFIDENCE" AND BECAUSE NO GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS OR VERIFICATION PROVISIONS WERE INVOLVED. FRG REP ADDED THAT BONN GENERALLY OPPOSED FORMAL PROCEDURES FOR CSCE-MBFR INFORMATIONAL LINK AND BELIEVED THAT PROCESS OF KEEPING NON-PARTICIPANTS INFORMED ON MBFR DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD BE HANDLED BILATERALLY. ITALIAN REP SAID ROME HAD RESERVATIONS ON PROPOSAL IN PARA 6(B) OF BELGIAN PAPER THAT ALLIES SHOULD ENCOURAGE YUGOSLAVS AND ROMANIANS TO ADVANCE PROPOSALS AT GENEVA AND DOUBTED TACTICAL ADVISABILITY OF PROPOSING FROM OUTSET SOME SORT OF INFORMATIONAL LINK BETWEEN CSCE AND MBFR. HE SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES COULD AGREE TO SUCH A LINK SUBSEQUENTLY AS CONCESSION TO NEUTRALS BUT SHOULD INSIST THAT ANY SUCH LINK BE INFORMAL. FRENCH REP RECALLED BASIC FRENCH POSITION OPPOSING ANY MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY BEYOND CBM'S AND OPPOSITION TO ANY CSCE-MBFR LINKAGE. FRANCE WOULD CONTINUE TO FOLLOW POLICY OUTLINED IN HELSINKI ON THESE SUBJECTS, HE SAID.
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3. NORWEGIAN REP SAID OSLO GENERALLY ACCEPTED BELGIAN PAPER. WHILE NORWEGIANS HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO GOING BEYOND CBM'S IN CSCE THEY HAD NO PLANS TO TAKE INITIATIVES AT THIS TIME. NORWEGIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT LACK OF REQUIREMENT FOR VERIFICATION IN CASE OF CBM'S MIGHT BE GOOD WAY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN CBM'S AND MBFR CONSTRAINTS. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 3(B) OF BELGIAN PAPER, HE RECALLED KNOWN NORWEGIAN POSITION AGAINST RESTRICTING CBM'S TO LAND FORCES. UK REP ALSO TOOK EXCEPTION TO PROPOSAL IN PARA 6(B) OF BELGIAN PAPER ON ENCOURAGING NEUTRAL PROPOSALS AND SUGGESTED THAT NEUTRALS WOULD TABLE PROPOSALS WITHOUT ENCOURAGEMENT, MOST OF WHICH WOULD DOUBTLESS BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ALLIES. HE ALSO STRESSED NEED TO AVOID ANY FORMAL PROCEDURE FOR KEEPING NON-PARTICIPANTS INFORMED ON MBFR DEVELOPMENTS.

4. BELGIAN REP THANKED OTHER DELEGATIONS FOR COMMENTS WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN PRODUCING NEW DRAFT. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS STRICTLY BELGIAN NATIONAL PAPER AND THAT BELGIANS WERE NOT SEEKING AGREED PAPER. HE ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT THOSE ALLIES NOT AGREEING WITH BELGIAN PAPER ABSTAIN FROM MAKING REMARKS AT THE OUTSET OF GENEVA DISCUSSIONS. BELGIANS PLAN TO TABLE PAPER PRESENTING BASIC IDEAS ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY IN GENEVA THIS WEEK. ADDRESSING U.S. REP, BELGIAN REP SAID IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO TAKE U.S. POSITION ON MOVEMENTS INTO ACCOUNT SINCE BELGIAN BELIEVE INCLUSION OF MOVEMENTS IN CSCE IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. WITH REFERENCE TO BELGIAN REQUEST THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS REMAIN SILENT IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO SUPPORT BELGIAN PAPER, CANADIAN REP RECALLED THAT PREVIOUS DISCUSSION OF ALLIED TACTICS ON POINTS WHERE CONSENSUS COULD NOT BE REACHED HAD EXPRESSLY EXCLUDED MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY FROM THIS SILENCE PROCEDURE. BELGIAN REP AGREED THAT THIS WAS THE CASE BUT AGAIN ASKED THAT ALLIES WAIT "A FEW DAYS" BEFORE VOICING OBJECTIONS.

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